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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Plaetinck et al.  
Serial No: Not Yet Assigned  
Confirmation No: ---  
Filed: Herewith  
For: CHARACTERISATION OF GENE FUNCTION USING  
DOUBLE STRANDED RNA INHIBITION

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

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**MAIL STOP Patent Application**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this amendment.

**Remarks** begin on page 4 of this amendment.